



www.riley.army.mil

Weather Forecast		Today	High: 63 Low: 37
Saturday	High: 46 Low: 21	Sunday	High: 35 Low: 26

FRIDAY

Fort Riley Post



BRAVO to perform

BRAVO, the Army's theatrical touring company, will perform at Fort Riley on March 19.

See Page 9

March 7, 2003

America's Warfighting Center

Vol. 46, No. 10

Senator, media visit Infantry soldiers preparing to deploy

By Michael Watson
Staff writer

War is inevitable, if a diplomatic solution is not found to stabilize the Central Command area of responsibility, Sen. Pat Roberts, R-Kan., said during his visit to Fort Riley Friday.

If Saddam Hussein does not disarm, Roberts said it is the job of the United States military to stabilize the area. He spoke to the 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry, the first combat unit from Fort Riley to deploy to CENTCOM, about its mission.

Roberts' visit prompted more than 25 media to travel to the post to hear his message about the mission and to hear how soldier's families react to the mission.

"Saddam Hussein has 333 vio-

lations on 18 different security resolutions, and the United States is the only country that has the power to enforce those resolutions," Roberts said.

"They're going to do the job — they are the best we have," Roberts said the mission is not against the people who live in the CENTCOM area of responsibility, but it is against Saddam Hussein, in order to remove him from his leadership role and build a new, and hopefully peaceful, regime.

"This is the catalyst that is going to do that," he said. "They are not only warfighters, they are peacemakers. You are not going to find any better outfit — better trained, better equipped, better ready — than these folks."

"Their mission is pretty simple.

It is to close with and destroy the enemy."

This brought a response, from the approximately 200 soldiers at Craig Gym -- the rattling of bleachers and a big "hooah."

"If Saddam Hussein is shaking in his boots, which I assume that he may well be . . . it will be because he is facing people like this," Roberts said.

Roberts said he was impressed with the morale the soldiers have, knowing they are going into an area of high tension — soldiers like Pfc. Shiloh Hawkesworth, 1st Bn., 41st Inf., who has a wife, Jennifer, and a 22-month-old son, Bret.

Even having a family to think about at home has not weakened my spirits, Hawkesworth said.

See Roberts Page 2



Post/Staff Writer

Sen. Pat Roberts, R-Kan., visits with troops from 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry, before their recent deployment. Soldiers asked the senator questions on a variety of subjects.

Reservists train to battle fires, enhance Force Protection

By Jamie Bender
Staff writer

Soldiers from the 475th Engineers Detachment, Firefighting Unit, a reserve unit headquartered in Creston, Iowa, conducted fire training at Fort Riley last month.

The detachment will provide fire protection at a Central Command location during its upcoming deployment.

The firefighters conducted a helicopter fire drill at Marshall Army Air Field and a live burn exercise at Camp Funston.

The Fort Riley Fire Department assisted the soldiers in their training by providing equipment and supervision.

"Without the Fort Riley Fire Department, this wouldn't have happened," said Capt. Leon Wilson, 1st Brigade, 383rd Regiment,

Training Support.

"Chief Boyd is a real supporter, bringing this together," said Gary Ouellette, station chief, Fort Riley Fire Department. "Helping soldiers is our mission. Without soldiers, we would have no job."

The live burn equipment was brought to post by the Kansas Fire Rescue Training Institute at the University of Kansas.

"The burn trailer was designed to be used for training on structural fires. By adding a wing, we use it to simulate an aircraft fire," said Dave Wickersheim, program manager, KFRTI.

There were several tasks that the soldiers performed during their training.

The soldiers must figure out where to place their ladder in order to get into the structure. The door is about 3 feet off the ground. Then they must search

inside for the source of the fire and put it out, and they must rescue a fire dummy from the structure," said Wickersheim.

An expert in firefighting training was brought to Fort Riley



Post/Bender

A soldier from the 475th Engineer Firefighting Unit opens a door on a simulated aircraft after putting out a fire during a live burn exercise at Camp Funston.

from Fort Lewis, Wash., to assist in the validating process.

"I'm here to make sure that the soldiers employ the correct techniques to put out the fires," said Staff Sgt. Kevin Robinson. "After they complete the first iteration, we will conduct an after action review to discuss what went right and what they can improve on. They will keep doing the exercise and improving on it."

The detachment soldiers have kept their morale high through the transition from the Reserves to active duty.

"It's hard at first, because you leave a way of life at home," said Pvt. 1st Class Ryan Berney. But he added, "This is exactly what I signed up for. I love being in the military."

"I am anxious to go and experience the real thing," he added.

For another soldier in the unit, things are a little more difficult.

"I just got married six months ago, so this is kind of hard on my wife," said Pvt. 1st Class Blaize Reha. "But this is a great group of guys, and we know what we are doing. We're high speed."

"I am looking forward to the deployment," said Spc. Todd Morehead. "It is a new experience and it will be something to look back on."

The soldiers said they feel confident that they will have a successful mission.

"We have good leadership," said Morehead. "We also have some lower ranked soldiers who are able to step up and get the job done."

"Even though I miss my family and friends, I am fighting for my country, and I'm proud to be here," said Berney.

Medical detachment trains for deployment

By Jamie Bender
Staff writer

Soldiers from the 110th Medical Detachment, a National Guard unit headquartered in Lincoln, Neb., arrived at Fort Riley in early February to prepare for deployment to a Central Command location.

The unit's mission is to provide aviation and ground ambulance service at whatever location they deploy to. "We will coordinate all evacuations, ground and air, to a higher care level," said Capt. Kevin Bricker, executive officer, 110th Med.

The detachment received step-by-step training on convoy operations on Fort Riley last week.

"We will be reacting to sniper fire and a chemical attack," said Bricker, before the training began. "We will also guard a perimeter from Opposing Forces. From there, we will move on to a land navigation exercise."

During the exercise, the convoy encountered small arms fire from the side of the road, followed by a simulated chemical attack. For the final phase of the exercise, the convoy conducted a perimeter defense against an OPFOR team from 1st Bn., 383rd Reg.

The OPFOR team the soldiers were up against won the OPFOR Challenge at Fort Riley in November.

During the unit's train up, they kept morale high, despite not knowing where they were to deploy.

"We would all be happier if we knew where we were going, but we also understand the operational security behind it," said Bricker.

Bricker said he was very pleased with the way his soldiers were making the transition to active duty. "They have done a great job of working together as a team," he said. "They are prepared and ready to do their job."

The 110th Med.'s convoy operations training was coordinated by Observer Controller Trainers from 1st Battalion, 383rd Reg.

"Coordinating an exercise like this can take up to 45 days to set up," said Staff Sgt. Brian Wood, an OCT from 1st Bn. 383rd Reg. "With the amount of training that has to be done at this time, it seems that three to five days has been the norm. While it can be difficult, we are rising to the challenge to get the job done."

Even with the challenges that the OCTs face, the training is always successful.

"We have yet to have any training exercise that has not been beneficial," said Wood.



Post/Bender

A soldier from the 110th Medical Detachment takes cover during a perimeter defense exercise against an OPFOR team at Fort Riley.

Bradley crews train before moving out

By William Biles
Staff writer

Bradley Fighting Vehicle crews from 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry, finished their live fire gunnery Bradley Table VIII qualifications Feb. 24 at the Gunnery South Complex, Range 18.

The purpose of the live fire was to qualify the unit's newest soldiers prior to their deployment.

With the completion of the gunnery table, all of the Bradley crews from 1st Bn. 41st Inf., are qualified on their Bradley Table VIII gates and are ready for war, said Staff Sgt. Harold McKenzie, installation master gunner, G3, 24th Infantry Division.

To qualify, the Bradley crews needed to score at least a "P" in seven out of 10 engagements. "P" meaning they still need to practice on a technical aspect of their qualifying, such as calling in on the radio or the speed in which they acquired their target, he said.

One of the soldier's engagements had to be done wearing their Nuclear, Biological and Chemical gear and two of them performed during the night, McKenzie said.

Ideally, you would want to have all "Ts" in the qualification. "T" meaning they are fully trained, said McKenzie. "However, we will accept "Ps" for their qualification."

"The importance of qualifying is that it gives the commander a measurable level of proficiency for each of the crews," McKenzie said.

The live fire exercise doesn't just benefit the command, it also benefits the vehicle's crew.

This exercise gives the crew confidence in themselves and their weapon systems prior to going into battle, said McKenzie.

"When a soldier is confident in himself and his equipment, he performs better. This translates to his command having greater confidence in its soldiers. It's sort of a ripple effect up the ladder," he said.

The training benefits the crews in other ways as well.

"This training allows us, as a crew, to know we can work together as a team to be able to get in and be able to destroy our target efficiently and effectively," said Staff Sgt. David Kusko, tank commander, Company A, 1st Bn., 41st Inf.

The difference between training with live fire exercises, as compared to simulation training, is that the live fire lets the crews get a feel for the vehicle and how it reacts when fired, said Sgt. Matthew Carter, Bradley gunner, Co. A, 1st Bn., 41st Inf.

"Simulators are great training, but nothing can replace live firing a weapons system for its training value," McKenzie said.

The table training is essential to the soldiers being prepared for deployment.

"The training is important for the soldiers deployment because it will keep their gunnery skills fresh, and that is something they will want if they go someplace

See Bradley Page 6

1st Brigade units prepare for Foal Eagle

By Christie Vanover
Media Relations

The 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division is repositioning forces throughout the world for a variety of missions.

Members of the 1st Battalion, 34th Armor and supporting elements are deploying where required to prepare for and support the President's campaign against terrorism and support additional security measures where required by higher headquarters.

Additionally, members of the 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor, 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, 101st Forward Support Battalion and other supporting elements are deploying to the Republic of Korea for a scheduled training exercise called Operation Foal

Eagle. The soldiers of the Task Force will enhance their wartime mission by deploying and conducting combat operations in support of the 2nd Infantry Division based in the Republic of Korea.

The Task Force's portion of the operation is to conduct a strategic deployment with the task force, test the pre-positioned equipment sets in the Republic of Korea and conduct training.

The units will gain several benefits as a result of the deployment.

"The benefits of the deployment will be that the brigade will be able to validate its internal procedures and those of the equipment storage site in Korea. It will also allow us to train closely with

the 2nd Inf. Div., while continuing to build a solid working relationship with forces on the Korean peninsula and our South Korean allies," said Capt. Mike Taylor, assistant S3, plans.

Another benefit for the soldiers of the Task Force is the chance to visit the Far East and learn about its people and their culture, he added.

Foal Eagle is an annual training event for the forces stationed in Korea. The Devil Brigade participates in the exercise every two years to perform and hone their wartime mission.

"A little over two years ago, we conducted this deployment to the Republic of Korea, executing this same mission, only on a smaller scale," said Taylor.

"This deployment is the culmination of four years of planning, coordination and training between the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, the 2nd Infantry Division and the Republic of Korea," he said. "Over the past four years, this brigade has completed multiple small scale deployments of the Brigade Staff, and select units from each battalion, to the Korean peninsula to prepare for this larger deployment."

Officials from the 24th Infantry Division (Mech) and Fort Riley will not speculate on future employment of these deployed forces.

The President of the United States has made no decision about any future military operations; these deployments are prudent steps to increase military capabilities and enhance flexibility.

Grunt By Wayne Ulden

THREE OF THE MOST DANGEROUS STATEMENTS IN THE ARMY:



Roberts continued from page 1

"I am eager and willing to go, complete my mission and get back," he said.

While Hawkesworth said he is 100 percent confident that he would successfully complete his mission, he said he did know how confident his wife would be handling things on the home-front.

Pearl Speer, Army and Community Service's family programs manager, said soldier spouses will be in good hands.

The Army has taken soldier and family support to a higher level since the days of Desert Storm. Just as soldiers are trained to support a mission, families are trained to support their spouses, she said.

"The center gives them tools along the way to make sure families are ready if the time comes," Speer said. "When the soldiers deploy, our support room is full almost every night for briefings.

"Different agencies come in, and those agencies will interact with the families while the soldier is gone. Families can talk one-on-one with those support units about their finances, medical care or housing," she said.

The rear detachment of a deployed unit relocates to the support center to be part of the Family Readiness Group, to become a one-stop shop for a family to get information about its deployed soldier. The group is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, Speer said.

"The Army family has shared hardships," she said. "They rely on each other and help each other out. It works very effectively because they understand what each other is feeling."

Caroline Ingram's husband, Lt. Col. Jeff Ingram, commander of 2nd Battalion, 70th Armor, has been in the Army for 20 years. She is not new to deployments.

"I have been through this before with Desert Storm, as well as deployments to Bosnia and Kosovo. It changes everything," she said. "Usually, we have our husbands home in the evening."

"Army wives have to be able to do everything, from car maintenance to handling medical emergencies, without their husbands there, so it does impact the whole family."

But Ingram said taking on the husband's role is not the hardest part about deployments.

"Missing them is the hardest," she said. "But Army wives — we all stick together. This is one of the most stressful situations you can ever encounter, and we have tried to raise awareness that if the stress gets to be too much, there is help out there."

"We don't take anything for granted. When our husbands go to NTC or the local training area, that is also a time for us to train before things get serious during a real deployment like this one," she said.

Ingram said deployments are difficult, but Army wives tend to put their best face forward and not let bad news or bad thoughts overwhelm them.

"We try to think positive and we know that our soldiers are well prepared," she said.

ADVANTAGE COMPUTER SOLUTIONS

2 x 2"

Black Only

2x2 adv.computer 4 paper march

KANSAS PRESS ASSOCIATION, INC.

2 x 2"

Black Only

Onaha Home/3-4 & 3-7

AT&T-APC
5 x 14"
Black Only
Whatever Serv (5x14) 3-7-03

Soldiers deploy in support of President's global war on terror

By **Christie Vanover**
Staff Writer

Infantry soldiers with the 3rd Brigade, 1st Armored Division deployed recently to support the President's global war on terrorism. Lined up in desert camouflage uniforms and loaded down with weapons and equipment, the soldiers of 3rd Platoon, Company B, 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry manifested at Custer Hill prior to departing Fort Riley.

"I'm a little sad because I'm leaving behind loved ones, but other than that, it's an experience I'm willing to take to fight for my country if I have to," said Spec. Kendall Smith, a soldier preparing to deploy.

During the manifest, soldiers weighed in and had one final inspection of their IDs, before they were briefed on their travel procedures.

"Because of terrorists, we've lost the freedom to carry nail clippers on a plane," one soldier said

under his breath, after hearing the strict rules and regulations.

The soldiers were also told that any cell phones or pagers would be confiscated, so there were no more opportunities for goodbyes from loved ones. From this point forward, it was mission first.

However, the soldiers hadn't been told what that mission was or where they were deploying to, until they received their final farewell from Col. Russell Gold, the brigade commander.

He began his pep talk asking soldiers what they thought they represented. One soldier yelled, "Fort Riley," and another shouted out, "The Army, sir!"

"You represent this division. You represent this unit - your company and your platoon. You represent your families and your hometown, but most importantly you represent yourselves," he said boisterously.

"You guys are representing a lot. Go out there and do your best," he added.

The soldiers who were gathered around, half on bended knee with rifles in hand, responded with a vibrant "Hoohah!"

"You're walking into history. You are the tip of the spear. Whatever happens, you're going to be in the history books. You're going to be a part of it," he continued. "I'm damn proud of you! Everybody is."

His remarks induced a sense of motivation among the troops. "He shed light on what we're going to be doing," said Spec. Josh Rodriguez. "Now we know what we're doing for sure."

"It's going to be difficult, but they picked us for a reason," he said. "Other people always know more about you than you know about yourself. If they think we can do it, we can do it!"

Their mission and final destination is still considered sensitive information that cannot be released to the public. To ensure their safe arrival, all that can be disclosed is that the unit is deploying to the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility,

which encompasses 25 nations located throughout the Horn of Africa, South and Central Asia and the Northern Red Sea regions, as well as the Arabian Peninsula and Iraq.

The majority of the soldiers just completed a six-month deployment in the region with Operation Desert Spring/Intrinsic Action from May-October. During the deployment in Kuwait, Task Force Stalwart participated

in a live-fire exercise and trained with allied troops.

After returning from the Kuwaiti deserts, they deployed to the Mojave Desert in California in January for a month-long live fire training exercise.

Rodriguez has only been in the Army for two years, and he deployed on each of the unit's recent desert missions.

"It's hard, but I signed up for this job. I love this job. I've done

it for two years, and I've got 18 to go," he said.

Smith agreed. "This is the best job in the Army."

This past weekend, more soldiers from the battalion deployed.

As of Wednesday, a total of 1,100 soldiers in the 937th Engineer Group and the 3rd Brigade Combat Team had deployed to support the Global War Against Terror. Approximately 3,400 more have orders to deploy.



Post/Staff photo

Spec. Kern Francis, HHC, 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry, weighs in at Craig Gym while manifesting for deployment for the CENTOM area of operations.

Talk Around Town

"What does it take to be a hero?"



"It takes the willingness to do what has to be done when the situation would suggest impossible odds."

Sgt. 1st Class Paul Portier
3rd Corps Support Command



"A true hero doesn't concentrate on being a hero. The person just does the job, and the results will tell the rest."

Staff Sgt. Julius Baskin
24th Transportation Company



"A hero does something that will make the world a better and safer place."

Spec. Tarek Abdul-Ghani
1013th Quartermaster Company



Cyan Magenta Yellow Black



Hearing test uncovers soldier's rare, serious medical condition

By Summer Alford
Staff Writer

Many soldiers take their hearing for granted, but one Fort Riley soldier has a new respect for the luxury of sound. Staff Sgt. Todd Hafer has lost most of his hearing in one ear.

Hafer had no idea that a hearing test could have caught the warning signs of cholesteatoma, a benign growth of skin in an abnormal location such as the middle ear.

"I had perfect hearing before. Now I have less than 30 percent of my hearing in my left ear," said Hafer. "I have only one of the three bones in my ear, with no ear canal."

If left untreated, cholesteatoma can cause an erosion of the bones behind the eardrum, leading to severe hearing loss.

The initial signs of a cholesteatoma are drainage from the ear canal, a full feeling or pressure in the ear, along with hearing loss.

Without the bones in the ear,

sound cannot be transferred to hear, said Hafer.

In late 2001, Hafer had his hearing tested after feeling the warning signs that something may be wrong. "I got motion sickness and I had a hard time even driving or riding in cars," he said.

"The last hearing test I had before the one in July 2001, when they found my problem, was in Korea in 1998," said Hafer. The test in 2001 showed a 40 percent hearing loss.

Irwin Army Community Hospital Audiologist, 1st Lt. Jillian Kibby, said, "Everyone should receive annual hearing loss screening." It is not a full diagnostic test but its purpose is to have a first initial screening to compare with future screens to detect damage.

"Since my activation here, I've even caught two early cases of possible otosclerosis, a treatable hearing loss that usually goes undetected unless the individual happens to have a screening or the loss progresses to the point that the individual notices it," said

Kibby.

Kibby said that noise-induced hearing loss is painless, progressive, permanent and preventable.

"Hearing loss is the most common, yet preventable injury in the Army," she said. "By the time soldiers realize a problem with their hearing, it is too late."

"I can't say that the test would have caught it, but in my case it would have helped," said Hafer. "The hearing test was a way of finding the problem."

He said he did not have his hearing checked because the Troop Medical Clinic did not recommend it, and there was no hearing van at the time.

Hafer was a mechanic before losing his hearing. "I haven't worked in my job since my first surgery." He underwent two surgeries to remove his ear canal and all parts of the ear except one bone. "They drilled out my skull twice and cut the back side of my ear from top to bottom."

"As far as being disabled, I have to go to the hospital every six months to have my ear cleaned

out. I can't do it by myself anymore," he said.

Staff Sgt. Tyrone Manning, the noncommissioned officer in charge of the Ear, Nose, Throat and Audiology Departments at Irwin Army Community Hospital, said, "Hearing loss is a serious

condition that could determine if soldiers are fit to perform their assigned duties, which could result in reclassification or maybe even a medical discharge."

Reconstruction surgery is available, however there is a less than 50 percent chance that 50

percent of the hearing will be restored, said Hafer. "The surgery is risky because it could affect nerves in the brain causing uncontrollable facial movements."

"My Army career is almost over," said Hafer, "and I am being sent to the Military Medical Review Board."

Heavy noise areas pose threat

Heavy noise areas often pose a severe hearing loss threat to soldiers.

There are several types of noise that may have a negative effect on hearing. Those effects might include annoyance or fatigue, speech impairment and hearing loss.

Weapon firing is an example of impact noise that builds rapidly to a high intensity and falls off rapidly. The effects of these sounds can result in annoyance or fatigue, speech impairment and hearing loss.

Military hearing profiles include H1 (no significant loss), H2 (minor to treatable loss) and H3 (severe loss). "Average levels of prevalence for H2 is approximately 23 percent; meaning one out of every four to five soldiers has significant hearing loss," said Kibby.

In 1974, 45 percent of soldiers had a H1 level of hearing. Today, 75 percent are H1.

A preventative measure for hearing loss includes wearing personal hearing protection, such as earplugs, earmuffs or helmets. Equipment modifications and regular hearing screens also assist in detecting damage.

Currently, soldiers preparing to deploy are receiving hearing screens in order to measure the shift in hearing loss upon redeployment.

Hearing screening is an annual requirement for service members and Department of the Army Civilian employees that are exposed to noise hazardous environments. Unit Commanders, Hearing Conservation Officers and/or Hearing Conservation NCOs are the driving force for the Hearing Conservation Program, Manning said.



U.S. OPTICAL
2 x 5"
Black Only
mar 5-12

MILITARY OUTLET
1 x 4"
Black Only
outlet mar 1

REX'S ROADHOUSE
2 x 4"
Black Only
2x4, Roadhouse, 2/25, 3/2, 7, 9, 11.

SUNFLOWER BANK- JC
3 x 3P
Black Only
3x3, 3/1, 5, 16, 19XX, Sunflower B

KSU DIVISION OF CONTIN. EDUCAT
3 x 11"
Black Only
KSU class sched. 3-9, 12th





Briefs

Physician Assistant Recruiter

A U.S. Army Recruiting Command representative will visit Fort Riley Wednesday. He will give a briefing in Normandy Theater that day, 11 a.m. - noon, for all soldiers interested in training to become a physician assistant. It is recommended that as many Medical MOS soldiers as possible be sent to this briefing.

Scholarships Available

Fort Riley Combined Scholarships are now available for spouses, graduating high school seniors and college students of any active duty, retired or deceased military member from the Fort Riley community. Scholarships will be awarded for undergraduate college programs and vocational schooling.

Applications may be picked up at the Junction City, St. Francis Xavier or Manhattan High School guidance counselor's offices. They are also available at the Fort Riley Thrift Shop, The Shoppe, Library, Education Center and Soldier and Family Support Center.

The application deadline is April 8. For more information, contact Dee Hayhurst at 587-1933, or visit the Combined Scholarship website at www.ftrileyscholar.com.

Marriage Enrichment Class

Want to make a good marriage better? Want to better understand your spouse? Want to have your spouse better understand YOU? Come learn how to deal with misunderstandings, and how to stop the argument cycle at the monthly Marriage Enrichment Class March 22, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Soldier and Family Support Center, Relocation hallway. Free child care is provided if you bring your child's shot records. Register by March 20 by calling 239-3436.

Thrift Shop

Get ready for Spring cleaning! Clear out your clutter! Let the Fort Riley Thrift Shop help you

get organized before the yard sale. Call us to pick any donations you have (in good condition). The Thrift Shop will stop taking winter clothes on Tuesday and will begin taking Spring clothes on March 4. Bag Sales every Wednesday and Thursday - get as much as you can into a bag for only \$1!

Visit the Thrift Shop in building 267, Stuart Ave., 784-3874. Hours of operation are 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. on the first Saturday of each month.

The Shoppe

Don't forget The Shoppe when you're looking for that one-of-a-

kind gift. The Shoppe has many items that may be special-ordered or personalized to meet your needs. The Shoppe is located in building 259, Stuart Ave., 239-2783. Hours of operation are 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Tuesday - Saturday. The Shoppe accepts Visa & MasterCard (minimum of \$25 purchase) and offers gift certificates to make your shopping easier! The Shoppe is also a great place to hold a unit coffee. Call now to reserve your night!

Founders Day Cancellation

The West Point Founders Day celebration scheduled for tomorrow has been cancelled due to world events.

Lead Guitar Player Needed

The Normandy Chapel Contemporary Protestant Service is looking for a lead guitar player for the praise band. They play contemporary Christian music at the service that meets on Sundays at 11 a.m. Rehearsals are Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m. and Sundays, 10 a.m. If interested, call Chap.

(Maj.) James Paulson, 239-3436.

Women's History Month

Fort Riley will be celebrating Women's History Month throughout the month of March. The theme for this year's celebration is, "Women Pioneering the Future." The Equal Opportunity Office will sponsor a free program at Normandy Theater on March 19, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., to

celebrate the occasion. For more information, call the Equal Opportunity Office at 239-2277 or 239-2928.

Mail Training Change

"Introduction to Unit Mailroom Operations" classes will be offered on March 18, 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. at building 319. Pre-enrollment is required. Call 239-5411 to enroll.

FORT RILEY POST

This newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the Army. The contents of the Fort Riley Post are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or Fort Riley. The Fort Riley Post is an unofficial publication authorized by AR 360-1. Editorial content is prepared, edited and provided by the Public Affairs Office and Fort Riley. The Fort Riley Post is published by Montgomery Communications, a private firm in no way connected with the Army, under exclusive written contract with Fort Riley.

Publisher-Col. (P) Frank G. Helmick
Public Affairs Officer-Lt. Col. Todd S. Livick
Command Information Officer-Gary Skidmore
Printer-John G. Montgomery
Fort Riley Editorial Staff:
Editor-Lori A. Baltman
Staff Writers-Spc. William Biles, Pfc. Jamie Bender,
Summer Alford, Kim Levine, Emily O'Connor, Mike Watson
Advertising Representatives:
Shelby Dryden, Jody Hessenflow, Sara Medina

The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of the Army or Montgomery Communications of the products or services advertised.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation, or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. If a violation or rejection of this equal opportunity policy by an advertiser is confirmed, the printer shall refuse to print advertising from that source until the violation is corrected.

For business or advertising matters, call The Daily Union in Junction City at (785) 762-5000. For news offerings, call the Fort Riley Public Affairs Office at (785) 239-8854 or DSN 856-8854, or write to the Public Affairs Office Bldg. 405, Fort Riley, KS 66442-5016.

Circulation 8,100 copies each week

By mail \$20 per year

A licensed newspaper member of the Junction City and Manhattan chambers of commerce

DPCA
3 x 7"
Black Only
DPCA/ITR

BRIGGS SUPERCENTER
3 x 11"
Black Only
Briggs super

USAA- ARM FORCES COMM.
3 x 10"
Black Only
I'm now a USAA Member/3-7-03

Korea 50 years ago -- Former Eighth Army commander testifies

By Jim Caldwell
Army News Service

Former 8th Army commander, retired Gen. James Van Fleet, testified before Congress 50 years ago this week about shortages on the front lines in Korea.

Feb. 27, 1953 — West German representatives sign an agreement to pay the United States, Great Britain, France and 15 other countries \$3.27 billion to cover debts the countries incurred during World War II.

Feb. 28 — The United Nations Civil Assistance Command estimates that more than 25.6 million South Korean civilians received smallpox vaccinations in the past two years and says the disease is no longer a major threat to the population.

French and Vietnamese officers visit South Korea to study U.S. training programs for ROK soldiers and tour the front lines.

March 1 — The Fifth Air Force reports that allied fighter pilots shot down 25 MiGs during February, while 16 allied aircraft were downed, including two F-86 Sabrejets.

A company of Chinese soldiers attacking French positions is driven away after hand-to-hand combat. The French soldiers are attached to the 2nd Infantry Division and man the area of the line previously held by the 1st Commonwealth Division.

March 2 — Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Andrei Y. Vishinsky tells the United Nations Political and Security Committee that the Soviet Union "sold and continues to sell" weapons to China for "strategic materials."

Vishinsky also claims the Eisenhower Administration will expand the war throughout the Far East using "Asian boys as cannon fodder."

March 3-4 — The Eighth Army begins receiving new vehicles from jeeps to large trucks. The old ones will be given to the Republic of Korea Army.

Retired Gen. James A. Van Fleet, former Eighth Army commander, arrives in Washington by plane to a hero's welcome. He lunches with President Dwight Eisenhower, and afterward Ike presents Van Fleet with a third oak leaf cluster to his Distinguished Service Medal.

On March 4 Van Fleet appears before the House Armed Services Committee in public and closed sessions. The only option in Korea was a military victory he

tells the committee members in the open session. The U.N. must not lose in Korea because "if Korea falls, Asia falls."

Eighth Army must be reinforced to carry out an offensive. He doesn't think the Soviets want to get involved in combat in Korea right now, but they might if a U.N. offensive is successful.

HASC Chairman Dewey Short, R-Mo., says that in the closed session, Van Fleet had no recommendations on a U.N. offensive. He also "doesn't have the answer ... no individual has the answer" to ending the conflict.

During a public session of the Senate Armed Forces Committee

on March 5, Van Fleet says during his tenure of Eighth Army commander he was hampered by shortages in manpower, hand grenades and "other" types of weapons.

Sen. Harry F. Byrd, D-Va., sends a letter to Defense Secretary Harold E. Wilson asking for a report and appropriate punishment for the people in DoD responsible for the shortages.

March 4 — Van Fleet tells the House Armed Services Committee that the United Nations must not lose in Korea because "if Korea falls, Asia falls."

The Department of Defense reports that the number of American casualties in Korea is at 130,732, including 23,069 dead.

General of the Army Omar Bradley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, tells the Palm Beach, Fla., Round Table that the United Nations has four options in

Korea: leaving the country; continuing to inflict more losses on the enemy than the enemy inflicts upon the U.N. command; employing additional military steps, or taking whatever military action necessary to end the fighting, even at the risk of war with China.

March 5 — The Chinese overrun an outpost of the 38th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division on the Hook.

Soviet Premier Josef Stalin dies at 9:50 p.m. in his Kremlin apartment. The 73-year-old has been in a coma since suffering a brain hemorrhage March 1.

President Eisenhower directs the State Department to telegraph only "official condolences" to the Soviet government, leaving out expressions of sympathy and acclaim.

Fort Riley continues to be a Korean War Commemorative Community through 2003.



Walk Kansas program encourages teams to exercise, walk 423 miles

By Kim Levine
Staff Writer

Whether your New Year's resolution was to exercise more, or you have been contemplating the thought but not acting on it, now is the time to improve your fitness.

The Riley County Extension Office, in conjunction with the Kansas State University Research and Extension, is sponsoring "Walk Kansas 2003," an eight-week fitness motivation program. Walk Kansas is a team-focused

event, with five team members and one captain who will collectively walk 423 miles, the distance across Kansas.

The program's goal is to encourage 30 minutes of moderate aerobic exercise, or walking 1.75 miles daily, five days per week.

Participants are encouraged to register in teams. Each week, the team captain reports the activities of the team to the Riley County Extension Office.

The program starts March 15 and continues through May 9. A

celebration for all Walk Kansas participants is scheduled for May 14.

Registration packets are available from the Extension Office by calling 785-537-6350.

The registration fee for the program is \$10 per person and includes a weekly newsletter, t-shirt, the celebration event and incentives, or \$7.50, excluding the t-shirt. The registration deadline is March 14.

For more information, e-mail Sharolyn Flaming Jackson at sharolyn@ksu.edu

Bradley continued from page 1

were they will need to use those skills," McKenzie said. McKenzie believes the soldiers of Company A are well trained and ready to go.

"The soldiers I have observed in training are highly motivated individuals who know their jobs and know how to perform their tasks in an efficient manner," McKenzie said.

The soldiers of Company A departed Fort Riley on Monday for deployment to an undisclosed location.

HOUSE ADS
6 x 12.5"
Black only
AUSA--IF POSSIBLE



Fort Riley Sports

March 7, 2003

America's Warfighting Center

Page 7



NCO Run builds morale

Noncommissioned officers from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 24th Infantry Division; 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division; 3rd Brigade, 1st Armor Division and 541st Maintenance Battalion recently participated in an NCO Run on post.

Noncommissioned officers from around post participate in event

By William Biles

Staff Writer

Noncommissioned officers from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 24th Infantry Division; 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division; 3rd Brigade, 1st Armor Division and 541st Maintenance Battalion participated in an NCO Run Feb. 27.

The run began and ended in front of Riley's Conference Center during the installations Physical Training hour, 4 - 5 p.m.

The route in-between took the NCOs down Seitz Drive and made a right on Huebner Road. They followed Huebner Road to Caisson Road, where they made the left in order to run up the hill. The sergeants and sergeants major jogged up to Williston Point Road, where they turned around and followed the same route back to Riley's.

The distance is approximately four and a half miles.

The run's purpose was to build morale by showing loyalty and honor to the 24th Inf. Div. and Command Sgt. Maj. Richard Hearron, 24th Inf. Div. and Fort Riley, through the use of the NCO Spirit de Corps, said Sgt. Maj. William Beever, G3, master gunner.

"This was a great run and something we do every quarter to build the morale between the

senior NCOs of the NCO Corps," said Beever.

Another reason for the run was to send out a message.

"Senior NCOs lead the way," said Staff Sgt. Marcos A. Felan, supply sergeant, HHC, 24th Inf. Div.

"This sets an example for our subordinates. It lets them see that the older soldiers still have what it takes, and I didn't see anyone get hurt, so it shows the senior NCOs are still in good shape."

Signal beats field artillery at basketball

By William Biles

Staff Writer

The 596th Signal Company increased their intramural basketball record to 4 - 2 by defeating the 4th Battalion, 1st Field Artillery team by a score of 49 - 42 at the King Field House Monday.

A solid defense and quick rushes up and down the court by both teams made the match a close battle for the full 40 minutes of play. The game started out, seemingly, like an easy win for the signal team, when they took a commanding 19 - 7 lead within the first 10 minutes of the game.

However, during the remaining 10 minutes of the first half, it was all 4th Bn., 1st FA.

By breaking out their big guns, they nailed a few long-range 3-point field goals. And, by mixing it up with a revamped defense, they were able to close to within five points of the leading 596th Signal Co.

"We were just taking it easy out there once we had a big enough lead on them. This way we can have a strong finish," said Anthony Gibson, coach, 596th Signal Co.

The second half played out much like the first, except that it was turned up a notch by both teams.

With the score 29 - 24 at the start of the second half, the 4th Bn., 1st FA team put two points up, to come within three points of the leaders. But, their guns fell silent, and it was time for the 596th Signal Co. to cue their handsets and send their air traffic, which culminated into a 12 - 2 run of points against their opposition. At the end of the run, the score was 41 - 26, with under 10 minutes left in game play.

Then the 4th Bn., 1st FA team took a time-out, and came back into the game regrouped and smoking. With catching their second wind and playing more aggressively, they caused the

596th Signal Co. to turn the ball over more frequently, resulting in only eight more Signal points for the remainder of the game. However, those eight points were more than enough to win the game.

Even though the field artillery team closed the width of the score again, coming within three points of tying the game with five minutes left, their efforts, like their score, fell short.

"Work hard, play hard. It's all about doing the right thing," said Gibson. "And that's what we did tonight, worked and played hard to win."

Mahoma Tello, 596th Signal Company, gets off a jumpshot over the outstretched arm of the defending Damian Walker, 4th Battalion, 1st Field Artillery, during a post basketball game at the King Field House.



Post Files

Habitat for Humanity hosts 5K run

By Kim Levine

Staff Writer

Manhattan Habitat for Humanity is hosting a five-kilometer race around Cico Park in Manhattan at March 8, 9-30 a.m. "Race for Humanity" is a benefit to raise money to build houses for Manhattan families in need.

Participants check in Saturday morning between 8:15 and 9:15 a.m. near Pottorf Hall. The race begins with runners, followed directly by walkers, at 9:30 a.m. An awards ceremony will be held immediately after the race to recognize the winners. Refreshments and snacks will be provided.

Registration for the race is \$15 and includes the race packet, refreshments and a t-shirt, while supplies last. Registration can be mailed to Julia Harbers, 1333 Frontier Lane, Manhattan, KS 66503. Make checks payable to Manhattan Habitat for Humanity. Indicate name, all contact information, gender and t-shirt size. Registration will also be held the morning of the race at the check-in tables.

Manhattan Habitat for Humanity is in the process of building the community's 12th and 13th homes for local families who would otherwise not have the opportunity to own a home. Local Manhattan affiliates said, "It's about building community, one family at a time."

To volunteer with Manhattan Habitat for Humanity or for more information on the Race for Humanity, call Emily Ross at 785-537-7545.

Recreation survey results released, participation down, spending up

By Alan Hynek

DES Biologist

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recently released the 2001 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation. The survey has been conducted about every five years since 1955, providing information on the number of participants in fishing, hunting and wildlife watching (observing, photographing and feeding wildlife), and the amount of time and money spent on these activities.

The Survey is one of the nation's most important wildlife recreation databases. It is the only source of comprehensive information on participation and expenditures that is comparable on a state-by-state basis. The survey is used for estimating the economic impact of wildlife-related recreation for each state, for estimating

the value of wildlife resources lost due to pollution or disease such as whirling disease in fish, for use in critical habitat analysis of threatened species and for preparing environmental impact statements, budgets and legislative proposals.

The 2001 National Report is available at www.census.gov/prod/www/abs/fishing.html. All 50 States will be posted soon.

Over 82 million U.S. residents, 16-years-old and older, fished, hunted or observed wildlife in 2001.

During that year, 34.1 million people fished, 13.0 million hunted and 66.1 million participated in at least one type of wildlife-watching activity including observing, feeding or photographing wildlife. Wildlife recreationists' avidity was reflected in their spending, which totaled \$108 billion in 2001. This amounted to 1.1 percent of the Gross Domestic Product. Of the total amount

spent, \$28 billion was for trips, \$64 billion for equipment and \$16 billion for other items.

Sportspersons spent a total of \$70 billion in 2001-\$36 billion on fishing, \$21 billion on hunting and \$14 billion on items used for

both hunting and fishing (the sum of expenditures totals \$71 billion due to rounding). Wildlife watchers spent \$38 billion on trips, equipment and other items. A comparison of estimates from the 1991, 1996 and 2001 surveys reveals that the number of Americans continue to enjoy wildlife recreation.

While the number of sportspersons fell from 40 million in 1991 to 37.8 million in 2001, their expenditures increased from \$53 billion (adjusted for inflation and comparability between surveys)

in 1991 to \$70 billion in 2001.

Fishing - Fishing continues to be the favorite pastime in the United States. In 2001, 16 percent of the U.S. population 16-years-old and older spent an average of 16 days fishing.

On the Wildside: News About Nature

Comparing results of the 2001 survey and the 1996 survey reveals that the number of all anglers declined 3 percent and overall fishing expenditures fell 17 percent - a 16 percent drop in trip and a 22 percent drop in equipment expenditures. From 1991 to 2001, the number of all anglers declined 4 percent and expenditures increased 14 percent. Saltwater fishing increased 22 percent, but freshwater fishing declined by 6 percent.

Hunting - Six percent of U.S. population 16-years-old and

older, over 13 million people, hunted in 2001. They spent an average of 18 days pursuing their sport. The number of all hunters declined by 7 percent from 1991 to 2001 and there was a 12 percent drop in expenditures (not a statistically significant change). Comparing 1991 to 2001, the number of all hunters declined by 7 percent. Although the number of all hunters fell, the number of big game and migratory bird hunters remained constant. The decreases occurred in small game (-29 percent) and other animal hunting (-26 percent). Hunting expenditures increased 29 percent from 1991 to 2001, primarily due to equipment expenditures.

Wildlife Watching - Thirty-one percent of the U.S. population 16-years-old and older fed, observed, or photographed wildlife in 2001. These wildlife watchers increased in number by 5 percent from 1996 to 2001. Their expenditures for

trips, equipment, and other items increased 16 percent (not a statistically significant change). From 1991 to 2001, the total number of wildlife watchers decreased by 13 percent. The number of those participating around their home fell 15 percent, while those taking trips to wildlife watch fell by 27 percent.

In spite of the decline in participation, expenditures increased by 41 percent because of equipment purchases.

Outdoor activities continue to have major economic impact, even with the continued gradual decline in overall participation.

It is becoming increasingly important to pass on the values and ethics of outdoor recreation to younger generations. If you would like more information, contact the Conservation Division at 239-6211 or visit the website at www.riley.army.mil/Recreation/Outdoor





Fort Riley soldier competes on Army team at Armed Forces Boxing Championship

By Michael Watson
Staff writer

The Army clinched its 12th consecutive Armed Forces Boxing Championship on Feb. 21 at the Naval Base in Ventura, Calif. Fort Riley's Jeff Spencer, 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, was part of that team. But, there was one boxer that knocked him out of championship contention early - a Marine named Jacob Garretson, ranked No. 2 in the nation going into the match.

It was a tough fight, but when the smoke cleared, the Marine took the bout by a score of 19-11. The punches were deafening, said Kim Upshaw, an Armed

Forces Championship correspondent. Even the roar of the crowd couldn't dampen the sound of the jabs the boxers exchanged in the 178 lb. weight class.

Going into the match, Staff Sgt. Basheer Abdullah, Army boxing coach, said Spencer would have his hands full.

"Spencer is an inexperienced boxer going up against the No. 2 boxer in the nation in his first match," he said. "It is going to be a tough fight, but if Spencer boxes to his ability, he has a chance to win the bout."

That did not happen, but the opportunity to fight one of the nation's best helped him prepare for more tough bouts in the USA

Boxing National Championship in Colorado Springs, Colo., March 22-29.

Spencer has been training with the Army boxing team and boxers in the World Class Athletes program, a program for elite athletes, since the second week in January at Fort Carson, Colo.

Spencer is not part of the WCAP team, but he could be selected for the program if he does well at the national championships.

Regardless of that decision, Abdullah said the training has helped him prepare for difficult bouts.

"He's had the opportunity to spar with some of the best boxers in the nation," Abdullah said. "He

needs to take advantage of that, and he needs to feel that he has nothing to lose. Everyday, I say 'look at who you are training with.' His sparring partners have helped him prepare for tough fights against competition."

Spencer is not on the elite team, but Abdullah said he could be selected for the program if he does well enough at the USA Boxing National Championship.

Wherever he ends up, Spencer said he wants boxing to be in his future.

"I'm going to try to qualify for the 2004 Olympic games, but if I don't make it, I would like to be in the World Class Athletes Program," he said. "Then, I will try for the 2008 games."

Turkey permit deadline approaching

The DES Conservation Division is currently accepting applications through March 24 for the 2003 Spring Turkey Lottery Drawing. Applications are available at the Outdoor Recreation Center, building 9011 and the DES, Conservation Division, building 1020.

The lottery drawing will occur on March 27. A total of 180 permits are available, which will be split into two segments, April 9-30 and May 1-18.

Additionally, Fort Riley will have a youth season, April 4-6. The youth season is unlimited in participation (no drawing) for eligible hunters.

Persons hunting the youth season are also eligible to apply for the regular season.

For further information, contact the Conservation Division at 239-6211 or visit the website at <http://www.riley.army.mil/Recreation/Outdoor/Hunting>

New Mexico's Bataan Memorial March canceled

Army News Service

WHITE SANDS MISSILE RANGE, N.M. — The Bataan Memorial Death March at White Sands Missile Range, scheduled for March 30, 2003, has been canceled.

Due to the current world situation and extensive military deployments among the units that support the march, the event cannot be safely and efficiently conducted, said event organizers.

"As much as we dislike canceling the march, it is the right thing to do at this time," said Brig. Gen. William R. Engel, White Sands Missile Range commander. "After consulting with our co-sponsors and weighing the available assets against what we need for a safe march, it is my decision that we will not proceed with this event."

What is missing is the basic military medical and logistical equipment support that had been available in past years.

In 2002, more than 200 trained medical workers manned aid stations along the route. Currently, medical personnel from Fort Bliss, Texas, who were to staff the aid stations are scheduled to deploy. Also because of deployments, support equipment — such as tents, water trailers and military vehicles from Fort Bliss and New Mexico National Guard units — is not available.

Organizers of the memorial march are currently refunding entry fees to those who have already registered.

The annual Bataan Memorial Death March commemorates the heroism of World War II military personnel who were part of the 1942 Bataan Death March in the Philippines.

The course takes marchers through 26.2 miles of diverse and rugged desert terrain. The marchers compete either in teams or individually. Some marchers compete in the "heavy" division, carrying 35-pound rucksacks.

More than 4,200 people from 45 states and three foreign countries came to the missile range to take part in the event in 2002.

The memorial march has always been such a wonderful way to pay tribute to our veterans and to pass on this chapter of American history," Engel said.

"We regret any distress or inconvenience its cancellation causes."

White Sands Missile Range, the New Mexico National Guard and the New Mexico State University Army ROTC Department co-sponsor the Bataan Memorial Death March.

For more information call 505-678-1256 or 505-678-1134 or send an e-mail to bataan@wsmr.army.mil.

FAITH FURNITURE
4 x 6"
Black Only
4x6 Faith Furniture 3/yt.du

THE MARTIN AGENCY
4 x 10"
Black Only
Alltel/Post 3-7-03

KANSAS PRESS ASSOCIATION, INC.
2 x 2"
Black Only
Trinity March/3-4 & 3-7

MANHATTAN PERIODONTICS
2 x 2"
Black Only
manh.periodontics TF

BROOKS YAMAHA
2 x 5"
Black Only
Post 3-7-03





In Step on Channel 2

6:30 a.m. In Step
8 a.m. In Step
Noon In Step
6 p.m. In Step
10 p.m. In Step

Fort Riley Community



March 7, 2003

America's Warfighting Center

Page 9



Girl Scouts do the "Chicken Dance" during Thinking Day activities in Junction City.

Scouts learn about foreign lands, cultures at Thinking Day event

By Jamie Bender
Staff writer

Girl Scouts from Fort Riley, Junction City and around the world took time to think about other cultures during Thinking Day at the Junction City Municipal Building in Junction City.

As part of the Thinking Day celebration, 15 troops of Girl Scouts, including Daisies and Brownies, selected a country to learn about.

The event began with a flag ceremony. The girls displayed their selected country's flag. The Girl Scout troops set up tables with food samples and trinkets to swap that represented each country. They then received a stamp in a passport book after their visit.

Baked beans with maple syrup were a food selection from Canada. Palestine cuisine was represented by baklava and Italy with meatballs.

The Girl Scouts also collected quarters to contribute to the Juliet Lowe Scholarship Fund and canned food to donate to the local food pantry.

After visiting each country's

table, the girls performed a song or a dance from their chosen country.

The girls began preparing for Thinking Day in December, said Pam Gonzalez, service unit coordinator for Fort Riley Girl

Scouts. "While they were preparing, the girls were able to earn badges by studying the different cultures," Gonzalez said. Anyone interested in joining the Girl Scouts can contact Gonzalez at 210-1208.



Daisy Troop 514 dances to "Tie Me Kangaroo Down" to represent Australia, the country they represented during the Thinking Day activities.

Deployed servicemembers' families should avoid 24/7 newswatching

By Michael Watson
Staff writer

When soldiers deploy, television can be a spouse's worst enemy.

During Operation Desert Storm, family members were sucked into a spiral of watching news programs to hear news about their soldier — something Pearl Speer, Army and Community Services, has dubbed the 24-Hour News Syndrome.

"As families start to feel anxiety, they keep the TV on 24 hours a day," she said. "We had people call here all the time because they feared the worst, and they wanted news about their soldier."

"They are taken into an emotional spiral they can't escape, and they get in deeper every time they see something on the news."

During Desert Storm, CNN was the only 24-hour newscast that reported war efforts. Now, there are three or four more media that are vying for an audience. To keep that audience, they must

keep an edge.

Caroline Ingram, military spouse, said media fight for an edge using graphic information and words that grab attention, like

the media for people tuning in too often, because people need to be informed about what is going on overseas. However, it is vital that families make sure that they do

not watch too much news. When families get caught up in the news, the war feels more real to them. The television leaves them starving for information, Speer said.

When they call the rear detachment at the Soldier and Family Support Center, the first thing the counselors ask when a frantic family member calls is, "Do you have your TV on?" she said.

More often than not, the answer is yes — they report keeping the television on 24/7. And some ask, "What if they show his dead body, and I miss it?" Speer said.

But family members should know that if something happens, there is a system that is followed and family is notified quickly. Families are more likely to hear

"News programs can definitely add to the stress levels during deployment."

—Caroline Ingram
Military Spouse

weapons of mass destruction.

She said she never experienced 24-Hour News Syndrome herself, because she did not pay as much attention to the news, but she led a Family Readiness Group where many spouses suffered from the syndrome.

"News programs can definitely add to the stress levels during deployment," Ingram said. "Limit the time you watch the news, and go for a walk or some other activity."

Speer said she does not blame

See News Page 10

BRAVO tour comes to Fort Riley

By Kim Levine
Staff Writer

BRAVO, the Army's theatrical touring company, will perform at Fort Riley on March 19. The post is just one of the 32 installations the group will perform at this year. Fort Riley Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers is hosting the event as a dinner theater, complete with food, beverages and entertainment.

"The show's theme is 'Lift Up Your Hearts, America,' and is a collage of plays, music, call, writings and poetry that focuses on what we love and cherish about our country," said Tim Higdon, BRAVO producer, Army Entertainment Division. The idea was originally proposed because of an increase in American's sense of pride and patriotism, he said.

"(Lift Up Your Hearts, America) celebrates the pulse of our country, its people, its landscape and its constant transformation,"



said Higdon. "As you come with us, we'll journey through barely-there towns and big cities, float across long rivers, watch the sun set from a rooftop, ride a bike through rush hour traffic and dance the Salsa on a starry night."

However, Higdon explained that this year's show is different than last year's because it is a mix of comedy and emotions rather than all humor.

"We highlight some of the unique, and sometimes bizarre, attractions you find along the

highways of America," said Higdon, "but there are some nice tender moments as well."

This will be the second year BOSS at Fort Riley has hosted BRAVO. Spc. Jason Dunlap, BOSS president, said last year was a great success. The show sold out, and a waiting list was created.

"Everyone that went had a great time," said Dunlap. "And there's a lot of rave about this year's show."

This year's dinner will include chicken dishes, pastas, salads and a variety of side dishes. Tea and water will be provided, and alcoholic beverages will be available for purchase.

Dinner will begin at 6:30 p.m. and the show starts at 8 p.m. Tickets to the event are \$12 and may be purchased through Information, Ticketing and Registration or through a BOSS representative. Tickets are available to Fort Riley and the surrounding communities.

Life in the Army: Growing up Army can be challenging for kids

By Jamie Bender
Staff writer

Soldiers face many challenges — long work hours and separation from family. Their children face almost as many, including leaving familiar faces and places on a regular basis.

For many children of soldier parents, moving is the best and the worst part of being part of the military.

"The best part of being in the Army is getting to meet other people," said 11-year-old Kanesha Hamilton. "You get to know how people are."

While Kanesha likes getting to know new people, it is difficult to leave behind people she already knows.

"The hardest part is moving a lot," she said. "You have friends that you know, and then you have to move."

Kanesha's mother, Sgt. 1st Class Cynthia Webster, supply platoon sergeant, 1st Maintenance Battalion, has been in the Army for over 18 years.

Kanesha has been to several different Army posts, including one in Germany. That one was her favorite.

"We went there when I was about eight," she said. "There were a lot of things to see and do. We had a playground in my back-

yard, and the food was better than it is here."

Cynthia agrees with her daughter that moving is a great part of being in the Army.

"Kids in the Army get to see different cultures and people," she said. "It gives [Kanesha] more imagination about what she can be and do with her life."

Some people never leave their own state. She has been to Germany and Paris. She may one day decide to live in another country because she has had that experience, and she doesn't have to limit herself.

Leaving friends behind can be a difficult experience, but Kanesha said that it gets easier as you do it. She and her mother have come up with ways to make the transition smoother.

"When you know that you are moving, get a year book or something and have all your friends sign it," said Kanesha. "It gives you something you can look at later to remember them."

"I try to tell the school way ahead of time that we are leaving," said Cynthia. "I'll try to make a cake or something like that. The class will usually have a day to recognize her and say goodbye."

Before leaving, Cynthia said

she learns all she can about the new place.

Once the family arrives at a new location, Cynthia continues to give her daughter something to do.

"She is in Girl Scouts and she goes to the teen center," said Cynthia. "It gives her something to do

while I'm working."

While some soldiers make the decision to have children while they are in the Army, others make the decision to join the Army after they have had their children.

Christina was seven and David was five when their father, Staff Sgt. Scott Lachut, Headquarters



and Headquarters Company, 24th Infantry Division, entered military service ten years ago.

Christina, remembers making the first move from southern Arkansas to Fort Drum, New York.

"It was like a big adventure to go somewhere new," said Christina.

The family has moved three more times since then.

"The most challenging thing

about being with the military is picking up and moving every three years," Christina said. "You realize that you can't keep in touch with everybody. It just gets to be too much."

Moving often in the Army has its benefits though.

"It helps that a lot of posts look alike," said Christina. "There is always a Commissary and a Post Exchange and housing areas. As long as you are in an Army community, there are always other kids like you. You aren't the only one who is new."

Moving itself is David's dreaded challenge.

"Moving, and everything associated with it, is challenging," said David. "It's a pain to pack and unpack everything. Also, it's hard having to leave friends behind."

While moving is difficult, both Christina and David enjoyed being overseas.

"Germany was the best place we have been so far," said Christina.

"I was able to take German classes in school and play soccer with a German team. I was fascinated by the culture there."

"There was a great church youth group over there where I made some good friends," said

David. "I remember that all the houses looked the same, and there was a castle on every hill."

The cultural opportunities that the Army offers are something the Lachuts appreciate.

"If we weren't in the Army, our kids wouldn't have been to a foreign country and had the wide variety of experiences they have had," said Scott.

"Our teenagers have been to the nations capital several times," said Scott's wife, Nancy. "They have been to Kitty Hawk and Monticello. When we were in Germany, the kids did more traveling than we did with the chapel youth group. How many kids by the time they are 14 and 16, have been on trips to Poland, to the Czech Republic, seen the Alps and Euro Disney?"

The Lachuts have come up with ways to make the transition of moving from post to post easier.

"As soon as you know where you are going, find out about the area," said Scott. "Find out what cool stuff is there."

"When you get there, don't just sit. Get out and do things," said Nancy. "Get out and absorb the culture wherever you are. Some places you have to look harder for it, but it's there."

"Invest time in your children," added Scott. "You spell love, time."



Prayer breakfast helps instill confidence

By William Biles
Staff Writer

Fort Riley held a National Prayer Breakfast at the King Field House Feb. 27 that featured, guest speaker, Chap. (Brig. Gen.) David H. Hicks, deputy chief of chaplains.

Those in attendance were treated to a buffet breakfast provided by Fort Riley's Rally Point. There were also prayers read from the Old Testament and the New Testament as well as a song sung by Chap. (Capt.) Brian Reed.

Hicks' speech focused on the importance of prayer and how praying to a higher power can help instill confidence in one's self during troubling times. He said it can help us to make a difference in other people's lives as well.

"And, I am convinced that the greatest contributions any of us can make in this world will come about because we are people of prayer focused on god — as people of character," said Hicks.

"We can, where we live, where we work, where we play, make a difference in the lives of other people, and we can ultimately make a difference in this world," he said.

After Hicks' speech, Col. (P) Frank Helmick, commander, 24th Infantry Division and Fort Riley, thanked him for sharing his words and presented Hicks with a pic-

ture that was taken earlier that morning at the breakfast.

"We were very fortunate to have General Hicks come down here from Washington D.C. to share his inspirational message with us today," said Helmick.

"Chaplain Hicks, thank you for sharing with us today, your message, said Helmick. "It has taught me something more about confidence and leadership, and about what an impact that prayer has on us."

After Helmick presented Hicks with the picture, the breakfast was concluded with the closing hymn, "My Country 'Tis of Thee."

The mission of the National Prayer Breakfast is to bring the leaders and soldiers together to pray for the benefit of the country, and for eventual peace, especially now, due to all of the Fort Riley soldiers who are deploying, said Chap. (Capt.) Al Grondski, 1st Engineer Battalion.

"We all need a foundation and a source of help to be able to go to. Prayer gives us the opportunity to be able to go to God in those times when there is uncertainty or fear, Grondski said.

Others agreed on the importance of the breakfast. "This kind of event is extremely important. As soldiers, we have a special bond and there are also special bonds of what you believe in. This breakfast is part of that," Helmick said.



Post Files

Chap. (Brig. Gen.) David H. Hicks, deputy chief of chaplains, gives his address, "Prayer of a Humble Friend of God," to guests at the National Prayer Breakfast.

Counselors, teachers prepare for deployments

By Michael Watson
Staff writer

As soldiers deploy, the idea at schools is to maintain life as usual.

There have been no reports of emotional stress in schools at this time, said Kay Forman, school liaison specialist, so there has been no need for special counseling. However, if the combat situation changes, it would be important for faculty to be on the lookout for overwhelmed students.

"Teachers will be on the frontline for students, as parents deploy," she said. The schools are asking teachers to talk to children who have parents in the military. They want to keep students following a normal routine, Forman said. "But those students will probably have questions about war and feel an increased amount of stress when their parents deploy," she said. The counselors will need to be able to help those children if they ask for information.

To be proactive, Fort Riley representatives have already begun talks with school faculty members to address future concerns about social and emotional stress levels.

Pearl Speer, family programs manager, said it is important that teachers, parents and students know that services are available on post. She discussed the affects deployments would have in the classroom and on counseling efforts with more than 100 faculty members on Monday at Junction City High School, and there are plans to talk to other schools.

Speer said a lot of the soldiers at Fort Riley could deploy to support Operation Enduring Freedom, and as the soldiers deploy, it will be vital that teachers and counselors are sensitive to war issues. "Some students will worry about the war, and others will feel stress from separation from the soldier parent, as they wonder if they will be returning home," she said. "Teenagers can already be moody at this age, but increased moodiness is a sign that they are not coping with the deployment. In case of increased moodiness, you might need to talk to that student."

If school counselors do not know how to help the student with the concerns, Speer said resources are available at Fort Riley. Army Community Service has several resources to assist families, including the Soldier and Family Support Center, Family Readiness Groups and Rear Detachment groups. ACS can be reached at 239-9435.

News continued from page 9

important news through the Family Readiness Group rather than from seeing something on the news, Ingram said.

Instead of being glued to the television set, people should set a schedule for watching the news — try watching for a half hour, two times a day, Speer said.

"We're not asking you to be ill-informed," she said. "Just don't get caught up in it. If you watch it right up until you go to bed, you'll have trouble sleeping.

"It's normal to be worried about people in a war-time situation, but when it begins to take over peoples' lives, then they might need help."

Speer said people report not being able to eat, sleep or perform day-to-day activities.

"Turn the TV off and take a walk," she said. "Bake cookies for your kids. Do something else that is normal. Don't make the TV your normal routine."

Not only does the news affect

parents, but it is also important to make sure children understand what is happening on TV, the Internet or in newspapers.

"Younger children are not affected as much, but teenagers hear the news," Speer said. "Parents need to make sure they are there to sort out the news so their children understand what is happening."

Even if parents do not think their children are watching what is going on overseas, they are,

Speer said. Just ask them.

"Ask them what they know about the war, and what their soldier parent does," she said. "Then give them the information they need."

Speer said children do better with a normal routine, and that starts with parenting. Not only have parents quit their jobs because of deployments in the past, but they had also quit taking care of their children, she said. They do so not realizing their

unhealthy routine.

Speer said Desert Storm was not a very long conflict. Soldiers were not in danger very long. However, she said she does not think soldiers and family members will be as lucky this time around.

The best thing Speer said family members can do to make the time go faster is to keep their lives as close to normal as possible and stay away from the news.

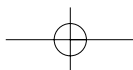
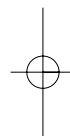
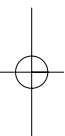
"Make sure you find an alter-

native to news," she said. "Don't get caught up in hype, and don't watch the news on a regular schedule. Know that your soldier is trained to do his job well, and do something normal so you don't live the news."

And, she said, call your Family Readiness Group or the Soldier and Family Support Center, 239-9435, if you feel overwhelmed or need help.



Cyan Magenta Yellow Black





ITR

The Information, Ticketing and Registration office is located in building 6918 (across from the PX). ITR's hours of operation are: Monday - Friday 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. For further information, call ITR at 239-5614 or 239-4415. Check out the Department of Army Leisure Travel website at www.offdutytravel.com for more great deals on travel. ITR services and discount attractions tickets available to active duty military, retirees, National Guard, reservists, Department of Army Civilians and family members.

Commercial Leisure Travel

ITR now assists you with leisure commercial travel. Make your plans early for better pricing and ticket availability. A computer KIOSK is available at ITR for customer use in booking airline tickets through the Internet or call ITR for assistance in booking your commercial travel.

Branson, Mo.

As one of the top vacation destinations in the country, and approximately six-hour drive from Fort Riley, Branson offers a wealth of diverse entertainment. Whether your idea of entertainment is being dazzled, spending a day with your family at one of the attractions or finding a great deal at one of the area retailers, Branson is second to none in its scope of exciting activities. Let ITR put together a Spring Break package.

Destination California

Want to turn your visit to Southern California into the most fun-filled vacation ever? At Universal Studios Hollywood enjoy all the thrills, magic, stunts and special effects when you take part in your favorite blockbuster movies. It's all the glitz, glamour, action and entertainment of Hollywood, only at the world's largest movie studio and theme park. Experience Disney at Disneyland Resort. Meet memorable

KCI Roadrunner

Kansas City International Airport shuttle provides door-to-door service. Military discounts are available. Make your reservations at ITR and commission will be paid back to the Morale, Welfare and Recreation Fund.

Florida Bound

Prepare to be awed, inspired, thrilled and enchanted at Walt Disney World. This is, without a doubt, the most magical and incredible time in your life, visiting the world's vacation kingdom. Universal Orlando is two amazing parks; one a working movie studio where the movies come alive, the other an unforgettable journey through unique islands. Each park is filled with once in a life-

time adventures, plus non-stop nightlife that's all within easy walking distance of each other. It's an unbelievable universe of family fun and excitement in one incredible location.

Colorado Ski Packages

They've started out the New Year on the right foot with new snow at Vail, Beaver Creek, Breckenridge, Keystone and Winter Park! Now that the hustle and bustle of the holidays is over, it's time to plan a relaxing getaway to the mountains. Whether it's a day at the spa or a day on the slopes, you can be sure to find something at their resorts to help your body unwind. Military discounts available for Colorado lift tickets. Let ITR put together a ski package for you.

Local Spring Break ideas?

Kansas Cosmosphere and Space Center is located in

Hutchinson, and it is quickly becoming the most comprehensive space museum in the world. It is not what you would expect to find on the open prairies of Kansas, and that's the point exactly.

From the jaw-dropping Hall of Space Museum and incredible IMAX Dome Theatre to the million-dollar multimedia Planetarium, the Cosmosphere is an all-day, all ages adventure. Hold on tight. You're go for lift-off! How about Science City at the Union Station in Kansas City? Imagine a city like no other in the world. It is a thriving metropolis that combines adventure, entertainment, discovery and excitement.

With four different parts of town containing over 50 interactive environments, you'll find there's something for everyone. Discounts tickets are available through ITR.

Normandy Theater

Tonight:

7 p.m.
Darkness Falls (PG-13)

Saturday:

7 p.m.
Kangaroo Jack (PG)

Sunday:

7 p.m.
Confessions of a Dangerous Mind (R)

March 13:

7 p.m.
Narc (R)

Army Times seeking candidates for 2002 Soldier of the Year

Army Times is accepting nominations for the annual "Soldier of the Year" award, honoring exceptional soldiers in the military.

The award is designed to recognize an extraordinary soldier who has shown unusual or unrecognized honor, valor and dedication to fellow soldiers and the community during 2002.

Army Times is looking for the soldier who best embodies the finest qualities of the men and

women serving in the armed forces. This soldier should be someone who unselfishly and consistently goes above and beyond the call of duty.

To nominate a soldier who has these qualities, visit www.armytimes.com/soldier, email soldier@armytimes.com or mail in a package to Army Times "Soldier of the Year" Award, Army Times, 6883 Commercial Drive, Springfield, VA 22159. The nomination

package must include contact information for the nominator and nominee, an essay on the nominee and the nominee's command unit information. For more details on the nomination package, visit www.armytimes.com/soldier. The deadline for nominations is March 14.

The winner will be selected by the readers of Army Times, and will be recognized at a ceremony on Capitol Hill.

Applications for homes available

Manhattan Habitat for Humanity is accepting applications from low-income families for their 14th and 15th homes.

Habitat families are selected based on three basic criteria. First, the families' needs must be expressed. Needs may include an overcrowded house, an unsafe environment or inadequate shelter. Second, the families must prove their ability to repay a 20-year, no-interest mortgage. Families purchase the homes at cost, which average \$42,500. The money goes into a revolving fund that helps to build additional homes. Third, families must be willing to partner with Habitat for Humanity in the building of their homes. Families will work side-by-side with volunteers from their community.

Habitat assumes the role of contractor in the construction of the house. Once it is built and the mortgage is signed, Habitat becomes the lending institution and carries the mortgage on the home.

Manhattan's 12th and 13th homes are in the process of being built. Today, about 60 people live

in the 11 houses that have been built since the Manhattan organization launched the program in 1995.

Applications for Manhattan Habitat for Humanity homes are available at Family Connections, Riley County Social Rehabilitation Services, Headstart, Manhattan Public Library, Sheppard's Crossing and outside the Manhattan Habitat for Humanity office.

COTTONWOOD THEATERS
1 x 3"
Black Only
Post schedule 3-7, 14, 21 & 28

LAURA'S REPEATS
2 x 1"
Black Only
Offering Art League, 3/20/03 in

FREE-TO-KNOW
2 x 5"
Black Only
Free-to-know

Applications are due no later than March 29.

For assistance with the application or for more information, contact the Manhattan Habitat Humanity Office at 537-7545.

FAITH FURNITURE
1 x 3"
Black Only
3x3 faith furniture

HOLM AUTOMOTIVE
3 x 4"
Black Only
2x4, Holm Automotive, 3/2, 16x30

DPCA
4 x 7"
Black Only
DPCA/BOSS

KANSAS PRESS ASSOCIATION, INC.
2 x 2"
Black Only
Kaim Trucking/3-4 & 3-7

KANSAS PRESS ASSOCIATION, INC.
2 x 2"
Black Only
CPI/3-4 & 3-7